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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016

Panther pride



From left, Margaret Stokes, nee Strawn, Class of 1939; her son James Stokes, Class of 1970; and his cousin Sharob Svob, nee Aldrey, Class of 1969; at Pelham District High School's ninth reunion in Peham, Ont. See more on page 2.



LOCALNEWS

Once a Pelham District High Panther, always a Panther

Protraedia Network Pelham District High School

continues to earn high marks for extra-curricular activities despite being closed all these

Given that the last class graduated in 1974, make that extraordinary-curricular activ-

A reunion held last Saturday at Lipa Park in North Pelham was the eighth since former teachers and students first got together in 1984, and they are showing no signs of becoming tired of seeing each other again and again.

Indeed, Vilma Moretti, a member of the 10-person committee that organized the latest reunion, is already being asked when the next get-together will be taking place. Instead of every three to five years, which had been the case, people would like to renew acquaintances every two years.

*People just want it. They just like to see each other." Moretti. Class of 1962, said.

She attributed the popularity of reunions to the close-knit nature of the school and of the prominently rural Pelham, Wainfleet and West Lincoln community that was home to a student body that, in the high school's heyday, exceeded 800

It's just a strong bond between us. We're special that

Last Saturday's turnout of more than 300 people exceeded the registration of 250.

Though Jim Stokes lives in Fonthill and has returned for most reunions, the member of the Class of 1970 decided to take vet another walk down memory lane with one-time classmates and with the teachers who

taught them. "I'm one of the kids here," the 66-year-old said with a laugh. "You feel good when you actu-

High for the Southern Ontario Secondary Schools football championship in 1969. He was accompanied by his mother Margaret Stokes, nee Strawn, Class of '39; and had the chance to see a cousin. Sharon Syob.

nee Aldrey, Class of '69. Margaret Stokes, who studied nursing after graduating from Pelham District and went on to spend 27 years working part time at the then Welland County General Hospital, recalled she was fortunate to even have been able to attend high school.

Since there were no school buses serving Wainfleet at the time, the only way she was able to continue her education was by moving away from home and working as a live-in housekeeper for a woman who lived next to the school. On Sundays she would walk five miles to Wainfleet to spend time with

"You grew up fast, but you learned to accept responsibil-Despite everything she had to do to get to school, time

ally see they're doing OK and they're on the right side. It was a family affair for the fullback and linebacker on the Panthers team that beat Welland

Retired Pelham District High School teacher Rae Ball, left, 1954-1973; and one-time student Vilma Moretti, Class of 1962, at the long-closed school's ninth reunion in Pelham. Ont. spent in the classroom was

never a chore "We had a lot of fun. Why not have fun, we all did well." Educator E.L. (Edward Lewis) Crossley, after whom the replacement school for Pelham District and Thorold-Fonthill high schools is named, was Pelham District's principal from 1931 until he was promoted to superintendent and succeeded

by Bud Ker. Crossley also taught

English and history at an institution that began as the Pelham Continuation School and had a barn on its property to reflect its rural roots and agricultural pro-

"Dad was raised on a farm so he taught us everything we needed to know about animals. said Mary Monteith, nee Crosslev, who along with sister Doris Milne and late brother Calvin were taught by their father.

In the classroom Crosslev didn't make examples of his children when he wanted to make a point, nor did he give them special treatment.

"We were treated as any other pupil," Monteith said. She recalled Crossley had no trouble separating his roles as teacher and father after the rare occasion one of the children made trouble in the classroom. "He didn't bring that home

with him, but we were pretty good kids." Crossley's children weren't

teased as "principal's pets" on the playgrounds. "People bad manners in those days, and if they didn't E.L. would have heard about it." said J.K. Jouppien, an alum who is a certified antique appraiser

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LOCALNEWS

Typical fall ahead for Niagara

RAY SPITERI

Niagara residents should expect a comfortable fall season, says Nadine Powell, a meteorologist with The Weather Net-

"We are expecting (temperatures) ... to come in above seasonal. In terms of precipitation, we are expecting that should come in more or less seasonal," she said. "The only thing is that just across the border ... we're expecting below normal precipitation ... so we're almost on that cusp where we could either fall below normal in terms of precipitation, or just around nor-

The Weather Network has released its fall forecast, predicting conditions for September through November. Powell said seasonal fall temperatures should be about 15°C. while average precipitation should be about 240 millime-

"Typically in November we get a little bit of snowfall, about 10 centimetres or so. But most of it comes in the form of rainfall, an average of about 240, so we should expect right around that" she said.

"If we're going above seasonal (temperatures) by about two or three degrees, that puts us in the high teens. I think most people would appreciate that, especially for the first half of the season, where we're expected to have a little bit of warmth."

Powell said fall bodes well for people who enjoy going outside. "Viewing the colours, and being in Niagara, you have the

being in Niagara, you have the wineries, and stuff that we like to do outdoors — I think we'll be able to enjoy that." The Weather Network also released its winter preview. have yet to "delve into great detail," initial Indicators show Niagara will experience a "more or less seasonal" winter when it comes to semperatures, averaging around the freezing mark. Powell said at this time it's "a bit more difficult" to determine what sort of winter pecipitation Niagara residents can expect.

"We came out of a very strong

El Nino, and it seems as though

the trend is beading into a La

Although weather experts are yet to "delve into great extell," initial indicators show the strong La Nina, she said.

strong taxina, smean.
"So definitely (this winter) shouldn't be the same as last year. Now, of course, that's not to say that we won't get cold spells, but ... by the time it's all said and done, hopefully we won't be remembering the really cold ones. Eventually it should average out."

rspiteri@postmedia.com



MNE DIBLITISTAL POSTAGOA METHOD

The fall season in Niagara from September through to November should be a good one for hiking, biking, and getting outdoors says a meteorologist with The Weather Network

Dr. Kimberly Dobson



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COMMENT

Published by PelhamNEWS, Postmedia Corp. 228 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 5P5 Tel: 905-732-2414 ext 246 Fax: 905-732-3660 e-mail: welland.tribune@sunmedia.ca John Tobon, cacup advertising director Peter Conradi, MANAGING EDITOR

Pelham Community Centre progressing

MAYOR DAVE AUGUSTYN

During our special strategic planning session on September 16. Council verified our number one priority as completing the Pelham Community Centre on time and on budget. So, let me give you an update of the progress to

Oversight Committee: In August, Council appointed Gordon Morasco, Bill Gibson, Councillor Gary Accursi and CAO Darren Ottaway to the Centre's Oversight Committee, During their first meeting on Sept. 7 the committee elected Gibson as chair, confirmed their terms of reference, and received a project overview and status update from Ball Construction. The committee will meet monthly and provide regular financial and construction updates.

Financial Progress: As promised, the Town hired a temporary analyst to oversee all financial aspects of the centre. Council insisted on this to ensure transparent tre expenses and project rev-

enues, including develop-

ment charges, sale of surplus

tracking of community cen-

As denicted in the Spring. the town will locate the centre at the corner of two new streets - Wellspring Way (with a traffic signal on

ensure regular staff carry on shamelessly with the town's normal operations. Also, Infrastructure Ontario approved the community centre loan and construction

financing. Site Works Progressing: Council unanimously approved the Site Plan for the Community Centre last Mon-

lands, and the debenture.

This arrangement will also

Regional Road 20 at Pelham ues with "earthworks" and Petroleum) and Shaw Avenue (linked with Rice Road near the entrance of Duffin Appleworks) The centre will stand adjacent to a public square and future transit stop and within walking distance to new stores and restaurants, the new medical centre and

various types of residential Last week, Ball Construction presented the blueprints and other community centre drawings as they applied for the building permit. While staff review the application. Beam Construction continwill be starting "site servicing" - installing water, waste water, storm water, and electrical services - throughout coming weeks. While these significant works have already begun, we will host the ceremonial groundbreaking later in October.

Ball Construction and staff will provide scheduling and financial updates at council's next and subsequent meetings Surplus Lands: Council's strategic prior-

ities also includes, "begin selling surplus land at maximum dollar value and best use." Over the summer, staff prepared and council reviewed a conceptual plan for the surplus lands that the town owns in East Fonthill. Efforts continue on this pri-

I am pleased that we've made significant progress thus far on the new Pelham Community Centre, for the benefit of our entire com-

You may contact Mayor Dave at mayordaye@pelham.ca to suggest future topic and view past columns at www.pelhammayordaye.blogspot.ca.

The leader of Grimsby's sandwich generation



TIFFANY

It had all the makings of a Hollywood-scripted epiph-Steve Bonin was mon-

ping the floor at De La Terre Kitchen when the sun shone through the front windows of the Grimsby bakery and sandwich shop, and the proverbial light went off. Bonin, then a staffer, told

himself he could work there forever Soon after, he became a

partner in the operation, running the kitchen of the De La Terre sourdough bakery empire, and feeding people sammies that are worth the drive to Niagara's most northwestern corner

"I love this place. I love everything about," Bonin said while taking a load off on a recent Thursday morning before the lunchtime rush. 'The ideals are perfect, the location is perfect, Grimsby is perfect. The people here really love good food." The downside? "Parking

can get sketchy" at this inconspicuous strip mall at the corner of Main Street and Bartlett Avenue, And understandably I was reminded a few weeks

ago of the magic that happens at De La Terre Kitchen when I sat down to a lunch it catered. Wrapped in butcher's paper was a beast of a beet sandwich on De La Terre's toothsome multigrain sourdough. The beets were sturdy and

smoky - that most primal of flavours covering the overpowering earthiness sometimes given off by the red All their best traits were fur-

ther amplified by creamy goat cheese, the kick of arugula pesto and the freshness of pea shoots I had no idea beets between two slices of bread could be so good. For weeks after, I couldn't get it off my mind. It was the bar to which I held any other sandwich that came within a taste bud of my gul-And that kind of sandwich

sublimity is the norm here. The flagship Grimsby Smoke is stacked with brisket that's brined for 15 days. smoked six hours, then hung out for 18 hours in a sousvide bath. It's dressed with sauerkraut and mustard that are both made in house. The vegan version swaps the brisket with smoked tofu. The staple smoked tur-

key sandwich is piled with breast and thigh that's brined for 24 hours before smoking. It's dressed with a De La Terre smoked tomato chutney "that's pretty much good on anything," and mayo.

Everything is done inhouse here except the pickles. We do 120 sandwiches some days so we just don't have the time," Bonin said in an apologetic tone. "I'd love to one

See SANDWICH on A8



Steve Bonin is co-owner of De La Terre Kitchen in Grimsby.

Niagarans buy into Toronto flights

Postmedia Network

Interest has taken off in the new weekday air service connecting Niagara to Toronto.

Passenger flights began running to and from Niagara District Airport in Niagaraon-the-Lake last Thursday and the response has been better than expected, said Chris Nowrouzi, president and CEO of Greater Toronto

'We are very happy with the way things are going," he said, adding several sellout flights have been booked for the coming weeks.

Since operations began, there have been three full planes with a handful of customers on the remaining flights between the two communities be said

"It's much better than we were expecting for the start! The Piper Chieftain used for the service has a six-passenger executive or eightpassenger commuter config-

Flights depart Niagara District Airport at 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., travelling to Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport.

also known as Toronto Island Airport. Flights from Toronto to Niagara depart at 7 a.m. and 4:30 n.m. It costs \$85 (\$96 after tax)

for a one-way ticket and \$159 for roundtrip (\$180 after tax). The airline has been seeng its lowest numbers on the 7 a.m. flights from Toronto to Niagara, but has not yet made any determination

about whether that time will be adjusted. Because the bookings are going so well, Nowrouzi said, the company is considering adding additional runs throughout the day. However, a decision is

unlikely to be made for at least another month until more "concrete numbers" are

Those added flights, which would not immediately require fleet expansion. would also take place during the week to help accommodate the demand being seen, Nowmuzi said.

Weekends are not yet on the radar To continue to grow its clientele base, Greater Toronto

Airways is using a number of outlets to help advertise the service. 'We're on billboards all around Toronto and on the Gardiner Expressway, so peo-

ple sitting in traffic get to see us quite a bit." Nowrouzi said lightheartedly. "We also have a couple of firms on the Niagara side working for us." There has been a lot of excitement from the business

community, he said, calling it a much-needed addition to Niagara's transportation net-

"I think it was a long time coming. Since the service was announced Aug. 9, "we've had hundreds of e-mails from people expressing their interest and their gratitude about us finally connecting the two cities," he said

The flights between Niagara and Toronto take about 15 minutes.

While operations have been free of turbulence thus far, there will likely be some minor tweaks made moving

forward. Nowrouzi said. Those changes will be determined through discussions with customers, he

There has been some interest expressed in seeing the morning flight to Toronto take off about 30 minutes earlier, at 8 a.m., to give passengers "some breathing room to get into the city to their meet-

change we might see in the short term. Nowrouzi called customer service the airline's No. 1 pri-

As a result, responding and adapting to customer feedback is key, he said.

'In the new year we'll be looking at the service. what we need to change. how we can make it better and (whether) we need to Airport commission chair-

man Gary Murphy said the group is pleased with how the service has been progressing. He felt some of the initial flights were a little light on passengers, but that "loads are picking up. "With a little bit more mar-

keting. I think it will really do Airport management, he

said, plans to work with the airline to introduce company officials to local tourism asso-

ings," he said. "That's the only

"We have a really strong vested interest in this becoming a success. We're not passive, by any stretch of the nagination

After about a month of operations, the commission intends to conduct an analysis of the service's clientele. "We want to know who those passengers are, where they're coming from and what the purpose is for their

travel. We want to know the demographics." For more information, visit flygta com

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LOCALNEWS

Giraffes join Niagara zoo



Safari Niagara welcomed two new giraffes, named Ziphora and Moses, that arrived from a zoological facility in the U.S. They are pictured here with 14-year-old Rainbow.

SARAH FERGUSON Postmedia Network

There are two new faces at the zon

Safari Niagara staff recently welcomed two reticulated giraffes to the 150-acre nature park nestled in the heart of

The giraffe yearlings, Moses

and Ziphora, arrived from a zoological facility in the U.S., and are now enjoying their new enclosure at the zoo on Stevensville Road "(Staff at the zoo) are very excited," Andrea Bouw, a marketing manager for Safari Niagara, said.

The two new giraffes are a welcome addition after Noah,

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a 17-year-old giraffe died after he suffered a brain aneurysm last January, leaving behind his companion, Rainbow, "Rainbow is excited, and we're all excited to have them together," Bouw said. Clearance has been given

to Safari Niagara to allow Ziphora and Moses full access within the entire giraffe house

The reticulated giraffe, also known as the Somali giraffe, is a species of giraffe native to Somalia, southern Ethiopia, and northern Kenya. There are about 8.660 living in the Bouw said the pair are

spending time getting to know Rainbow, a 14-year-old reticulated giraffe. Members of the public are

asked for patience and understanding as the giraffes may not be featured in their main

exhibit while they adjust to their new environment. While the giraffes get to know each other, and "acclimate to their new setting," stimuli can be an overwhelming experience for the sensitive giraffe species.

"At this time, the giraffes will be viewable, but they will not be available to be fed by

the public," she said Guests are encouraged to observe the animals from a distance as all three giraffes will be held in the paddock

near the zon's barn. So far, Bouw said guests have commented on their excitement about the arrival of Zinhora and Moses.

"The public has been very excited. As they are leaving, they are coming back to the admissions gate and commenting to staff how they got the chance to see them and how cute they are."









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Pelham

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Engineering Design Criteria

Open House

neening staff, managers and the director to provide input about the draft Engineering Design Criteria Review the draft document at:

pelham ca/have-your-say Pelham Town Hall (Monday-Friday, 8:30am until 4:30pm)

ore information, contact Public Works at 905-892-2607 ext. 332

Pelham

Residents and business are invited to participate in the upcoming open house to provide input into the 2017 Town of Pelham capital and operating budgets.

Tuesday, October 11, 2016 @ 6:30pm Pelham Council Chambers at Town Hall (20 Pelham Town Square in Forthill)

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Would it make a good sandwich?

For the ham, Bonin, who used to work at a butcher shop. orders in a whole leg, carving cuts and roasting the bones for the sandwich's trusty sidekick,

His handful of staff makes 40

to 50 litres of it a day in the winter. In the summer, their attention turns to salads "It's grandma's cooking done

gourmet," he explained. "Everything about it is to make you feel good and full. It doesn't always have to be something

that's seven courses." During my visit, the crew was quick-pickling fennel for the organic chicken sandwich. Everyone on staff talks food, and inspiration for the day's specials come from last night's meals and the answer to one simple but important question:

Would it make a good sand-"We talk food all day. They're all cooks. There's no shortage of

ideas," Bonin said. In the summer, "the market dictates." Fruit and vegetable muses are brought in from local farms, including Bonin's inlaws' Hipple Farms. They add them to sandwiches and salads or preserve them for eale

Oh, and did I mention the swoon-worthy spelt brownies that taste like chocolate and 10



pounds of butter? I kind of have helps, too.

Tiffany Mayer is the author of Niagara Food: A Flavourful History of th Peninsula's Bounty (The History Press). She also blogs about food and farming at eatingniagara.com. You can reach

her at eatingniagara@gmail.com or on Twitter @eatingniagara.





a crush on this place.

good," Bonin said.

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A few of the dozens of old railway ties sit on the pavement beside an excavator, as work continues on Niagara St.

Workers surprised by find

ALLAN BENNER Postmedia Network

It wasn't a mastodon or any other prehistoric creature, but the remains of an old white elephant were unearthed this summer by workers adding new water and sewer lines to Niagara Street in Welland.

Dozens of railway ties have been dug up during the ongoing construction project in the city, the remnants of a centuryold trolley track that was only in service for about six months before it was abandoned long

ago.

Local historian Terry Hughes said the railway ties were part of the Niagara, Welland and Lake Erie Railroad, installed in about 1913 to extend a trolley service along Niagara Street.

However, after the tracks were installed, the railway company soon learned that the trolley cars in use at the time were too heavy to be supported the old Alexandra Swing Bridge, which used to cross the canal where the Main Street Bridge now stands.

"So the line sat there for years, not doing much of anything," Hughes said.

If wasn't until 1922 that a trolley car was developed that was ight enough for the bridge, and the tracks were finally pressed into service carrying passengers who paid five cents per trip. But it didn't last long.

"The problem was the car with the shalf an hour to do its scheduled run up and down Niagara Street," Hughes said. "Well, people felt they could walk faster to get downtown then wait for the trolley."

After about six months, the little-used trolley service on Niagara Street was discontinued and the tracks again sat unused.

Hughes said he still remembers from his childhood when new pawement was being added to Niagara Street. Although the steel ralls were removed at the time, he said workers just poured concrete over the wooden railway ties that supported the rails. "And now, with the them

doing a total reconstruction of the street, they're finding these ties encased in concrete," he said.

The work currently underway by Provincial Construction is part of a \$5-million city and Niagara Region project to add watermains and sewer lines to the busy thoroughfare, as well as new pavement from the intersection of Riverbank Street

Although plans originally called for one lane to remain open while the work was underway, the south end of Niagara Street was closed to traffic entirely earlier last

to Thorold Road

In an e-mail, Welland's manager of engineering services Erik Nickel said the closure was done at the request of the Ontario Ministry of Labour.

He said the ministry reviewed plans for the construction of underground infrastructure services between Riverbank and Merritt streets, and determined that allowing any traffic to through the area "poses a significant risk to both passing motorists and construction

workers."

Vehicles are instead being detoured to Prince Charles Drive.

Workers at the construction site said they were approached by a Niagara Street resident who told them about the significance of the railway ties.

The workers said they suspected the trolley track remnants might still be hidden below the pavement when the project first began, but they didn't know for certain until the first of the old wooden ties emerged from the excavation.

Hundreds of the railway ties are now piled up on the land that was once home to Welland Iron and Brass, along the banks of the Welland River.

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Police investigating pot farm

ALLAN BENNER

A Port Colborne greenhouse used for growing med-ical marijuana — robbed at gunpoint earlier last week - is being investigated after police say it exceeded production limits by thousands of plants

worth about \$1.5 million. Niagara Regional Police say the greenhouse at 462 Pinecrest Rd has three mednot happen." ical marijuana licences limiting production to about 400

plants. But police announced last and The Tribuna Thursday morning that 3,400 "This may be what will marijuana plants were found growing in the greenhouse when a search warrant was

executed there last Tuesday. "The number of mariiuana plants exceeded the amount allowed to grow by almost 3,000 plants," the NRP said in a statement. "The fact that this location had almost 3,000 plants over the allowed amount, once processed, would yield a profit of over \$1.5 million

That's based on police estimates valuing the cost of marijuana at \$2,000 to \$2,500 per pound.

"This makes locations such as this one very vulnerable to the criminal subculture. the NRP said, "The current robbery investigation at the Pinecrest Road location is a prime example." Police say no arrests have

been made and their investigation is ongoing. They do, however, anticipate making arrests in the near future.

Police began investigating the facility after the armed robbery occurred there at about 4 a.m. last Monday, when owners of the facility, which had formerly been known as Muileboom Greenhouses, were held at gun-

No injuries were reported. A woman who answered the phone at the greenhouses last Tuesday said, "We're OK, and that's all I can tell you. Phone calls left at the business last Thursday were not

returned In light of the greenhouse investigation as well as the robbery, Port Colborne Ward 4 Coun. Ron Bodner said he's hoping it could mean an end to the marijuana being pro-

duced at the facility. "I certainly would hope that something is done that this can't go on again in that loca-tion," he said.

"Nobody wants that in their neighbourhood. When you invite criminal activity in, you can't stand for that. It just can-

Ward 4 Coun. Barb Butters shared a similar sentiment in an e-mail she sent to residents

finally shuts it down," she Bodner said the greenhouse was not among the larger marijuana growing facilities licensed by Health Canada for the production of the plant, but instead was part of an earlier plan that allowed people with licences for grow-

ing their own medical marijuana plants to team up with other licence holders to grow the plants. "We have to be careful not to confuse the new type of licences with the old type of licence. Everybody tends to lump those into one pot," Bodner said. "Sorry for the

choice of words While the large scale licensed facilities are subject "to absolutely strict regulations and inspections," be said that doesn't apply to the type of facility running in Port Col-

"These guys are in the wild west" he said.

Bodner said he'd like to determine how often criminal activity occurs in these type of marijuana growing opera-

Although the issue wasn't listed on the agenda for Monday's Port Colborne city council meeting, Bodner planned to ask city staff to develop a report on the issue.

Five suspects were arrested and charged with numerous offences related to Monday's robbery, but police believe an addition five people involved in the heist are still at large.

ABenner@postmedia.com

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LOCALNEWS

Fake news biz yields real profits

MARYANNE FIRTH Postmedia Network

Yaman Abuibaid and Daré Adebanio are in the business of making headlines - liter-

The two St. Catharines teens have turned a sizable profit concocting fake news articles that have been drumming up attention online. Their website, HotGlobal-

News.com, has been gaining traction since its creation in late 2014. While it began as a source to display bogus celebrity gos-

sip, the pair quickly learned last October that there exists a sweet spot online for fictitious political reads. It was during election season that the website's popularity skyrocketed thanks to a

phony story about Justin Trudeau promising to build marliuana stores in every Canathe site's stories have focused on the prime minister, often connecting him to pot or Donald Trump in one way or another. The viral hoax that has covered the most ground suggests Trudeau has hanned Trump from entering Canada. It has more than 300,000 social media shares.

So how does one get into the fake news business? It was tabloid queen Kim Kardashian that first inspired Abuibaid to test the boay

Chatting in a school lunchroom with friends about what he felt was an obviously-fake article about the reality TV star, he came to realize how easily people buy into what they read on the web.

I thought to myself, damn. (Fake news sites) must make a lot of money. When fellow techie and

longtime friend Adebanio recommended the pair band together to put their com-

HUNGRY?



Yaman Abuibaid, a 16-year-old Denis Morris Catholic High School student, shown, and his business partner Dare Adebanio, both from St. Catharines, are creators of a fake news website that has been generating thousands of dollars in ad revenue every month.

puter prowess to work, they for a successful business venrealized there was potential ture.

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online can have. People took particular aim at an article written by a freelancer to the website, which claimed Justin Trudeau was abusive to wife Sophie. The article has since been removed, as well as several others "At first, it really seemed

harmless to us, what we wrote about," said Abuibaid, who is starting Grade 11. "We're not scamming peo-

ning to learn it may not come without consequence.

After being featured in an

article on the popular web-

site Buzzfeed last month, the

teens saw significant back-

lash for their hobby. There

were questions about libel.

lashings at their character

and assumptions they would

someday be brought to court

Abuibaid said, "But I don't

Morris Catholic High School

student said, adding he's

since out more thought into

the impact putting his words

'It was hard to hear,"

"I never saw it as a harmful thing before," the Denis

for their creations.

blame them.

ple for their money. It's just ad clicks" But the recent events have

the two tech whizzes rethinking their online strategy. Daré and I are really questioning things Abuibaid said on behalf of

his business partner. They've taken the disclaimer, which labels the site's content as satire, from the bottom of the page to the very top to make it more visible to readers

They're also putting more thought into every article before it hits the web to make sure it's not crossing their own self-imposed ethi-

cal line. "Now, we're trying to post actual funny news instead of hoaxes," Abuibaid said.

One of the site's most da's leader will star in the latest Star Wars flick as an avid While creating click bait, marijuana-user who presand squirrelling away the sures Voda and Luke Skyresulting ad revenue, may be walker to give the drug a try. fun for some, Abuibaid, 16, "We tried to make it funny," he said. "We're trying and Adebanio, 19, are begin-

to write articles like (satirical website) The Onion Despite the latest controversy. Abuibaid has not been swaved from continuing to

pursue his passion for com-After high school graduation, he intends to join Adebanjo at Carleton University

for computer science. Adebanio is entering his second year of the program in the While website design is always likely to remain a hobby, Abuibaid believes his

future lies in app develop-He's hopeful profits from

the website will support his education With momentum now behind the website. Hot Glo-

bal News is drawing in an average \$4,000 a month in ad revenue, Abuibaid said. About 10 per cent each month is reinvested into Facebook ads, and much of the remainder goes into sav-

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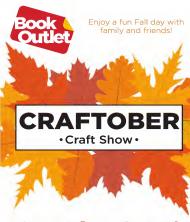
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Where the Crossley sidewalk ends

Town of Pelham staff will take a further look at a proposed sidewalk to E.L. Crossley Secondary School.

School. Town council turned down a public works department recommendation. It would shift runsed funds set aside for road reconstruction of Beamer and Luffman roads. It would also tap into Niagara Regional funds to build a \$247,000 sidewalk for walkers and cyclists from Lookout Street to the high school on

to the high school on Regional Road 20. Ward 2 Coun. Gary Accursi suggested using the funds to allow Pelham Transit's bus to carry students to the school.

Ward 1 Coun. Marvin Junkin said a Crossley teacher told him bike lanes up Effingham Street from Pancake Lane would better serve the needs of students. Ward 3 Coun. Peter Pann surgested staff look

Papp suggested staff look at other options before supporting a two-metre wide sidewalk.

Library protests internet funding cut

A slash of \$18,000 in provincial funding for broadband service in Pelham will hamper library services in rural

Pelham Public Library in letter to the Eleanor McMahon, Ontario's minister of tourism, culture and sport, said this funding is critical to offset the high cost of broadband access across

In particular, the library board said it will affect service at the Maple Acre branch which "serves a largely rural population whose access to reliable connectivity is limited." Most depend on slow dialup service. These rural residents use access provided by

the library to pursue

and health matters.

Tim Wright said.

library's Internet

education, employment

library board chairman

Seasonal migrant

connectivity to remain

Ward 2 Coun. Garv

Accursi warned council

last Monday that cuts

as well as in \$23,000

in operational grants

the town could face a

\$41,000 increase in

services

from the province means

costs to maintain library

to broadband funds

in contact with their

workers rely on the

While the panels would be installed after the centre is built, a provincial feed-in-tariff (TIF) program deadline of Oct. 31 looms. By signing up before then, the municipality would get a better return on electricity generated

representative.

from the panels for the provincial grid. Ward 3 Coun. John Durley said, right after the town discussed banning door-to-door sales, it was considering

an unsolicited proposal.

Ottaway said solar
panels were discuss
before but rejected. The
proposal is different
since panels would not
penetrate the roof.
He would get the
opinion of Ball, which is
overseeing construction

of the centre.

If the company is interested the town would consider a request-for-proposals procedure for solar panels.

Sign of things to come Pelham town council sent a sign bylaw

amendment back to staff for another look. It would allow wall signs of up to 25 per cent of a building face. The amendment request was triggered by a sign request for a large "F" on a Food Basics sign

in the new East Fonthill development. Mayor Dave Augustyn said the amendment would apply everywhere in trown

He said he preferred a case-by-case approach to sign exemptions. "We want to preserve and protect the character

"We want to preserve and protect the character of our town," he said. With current development underway, there could be many requests coming

Solar panel offer for community centre

Town of Pelham chief administrative officer Darren Ottaway will talk to Ball Construction about putting solar panels on the proposed Pelham Community Centre.

Mayor Dave Augustyn brought a proposal to town council he received from a solar panel sales

Summerfest working on

plan for 2017
Pelham Summerfest
committee members will
absorb comments made
at a meeting with Pelham

Street businesses.
From them, the
committee will develop
a plan by December for
Summerfest 2017. It will
share it with the owners
of offices, shops and

restaurants on the street.
At a meeting last
week, representatives
from 17 businesses on
Pelham Street and from
the town worked with the
Summerfest committee.
They raised concerns

about customer access when the street was closed. They also talked about security, liability for damages, getting businesses involved in Summerfest, and finding ways to help them benefit. Ward 2 Coun. Gary

Accursi said the workshop meeting showed the system works through a creative process. The meeting was

triggered by a petition asking the town to move the July Summerfest off Pelham Street because it interfered with business.

 Wayne Campbell, special to Postmedia Network



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East Fonthill project taking form

Special to Postmedia Nebwork

The Town of Pelham will invest \$9 million from a loan for the Pelham Community Centre. Chief administrative officer Darren Ottaway said last Monday the municipality will put out an investment request for proposals for the project. Meanwhile, Pelham is work-

ing with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario on investment strategies for the

In his first update on the East Fonthill development and the Pelham Community Centre project, the Ottaway reminded town council of an investment strategy to build up construction funds. The town has completed an inventory of a dozen surplus town-owned lands. Four prop erties outside of East Fonthill will soon go up for sale. "They are odd-shaped prop-

erties," he said of the properties, including one on Manle Street. Money from the sales will be set aside to help pay for the community centre. In all, the town hopes to raise

\$12 million through sale of surplus land including land near he centre but not needed for it. The current Pelham Arena and surrounding land could be

"We have had some interest," Ottaway said. A decision on planning for the Haist Street site will be made oner than later", possibly in

late fall, he said. Ward 3 Coun, Peter Papp said any planning discussion should include those living around it. However, the old arena would

not be available until the new centre is completed and opera-In his presentation, Ottaway said installation of underground

infrastructure in the Regional Road 20 and Rice Road area was completed in 2015 and 2016. Watermain services are tied into the town's system and are live, he said, adding town staff is keeping the lines flushed to

avoid stagnation. Ottaway said a road base is done and in October coarse

after telephone, hydro, cable and gas lines go in.

Roads will remain coarse during construction of the community centre and neighbouring residential and commercial projects to accommodate heavy

There will be two storm water nonds One at the corner of Rice Road and Regional Road 20 and a second one in River Estates, near Port Robinson Road Ottaway said the main pond at Rice and Regional Road 20

has not been landscaped yet. beyond the planting of trees. It was because of the hot summer Ward 3 Coun. John Durley said he has received complaints

about dense undergrowth and "You can't see the water. Peo ple are calling it unsightly:

The town has created a fourmember oversight committee for the twin-icepad community centre project. On it are two residents, Bill Gibson and Gordon Morasco, along with Accursi and Ottaway, Gibson will serve aschairman

While Ball Construction will oversee the day-to-day construction, the committee will take a larger overview including how the project affects the town's financial situation. Ottaway said the commit-

tee has met with Ball to review terms of reference. Accurst said the two citizen

members bring expertise in large scale construction and government procurement. The committee has set up

templates for monthly financial reporting. The East Fonthill project

onsists of town-owned lands for the community centre and Wellspring Cancer Centre as well as proposed health cen-Fonthill Gardens is a com-

mercial and residential development that will include a plaza, a Food Basics grocery store and a Tim Hortons along Regional Road 20.

River Estates is a subdivision at to the south at Port Robinson and Rice Road.



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